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HARVARD

Punishment ruled out over grant from CIA

A Harvard University professor who accepted a \$50,000 grant from the Central Intelligence Agency for a conference on Islamic fundamentalism without informing the school will not be disciplined and the meeting will be allowed to proceed, the university announced Friday.

A. Michael Spence, dean of the faculty, said the scholar, Nadav Safran, director of Harvard's Middle Eastern Research Center, had "erred" in not reporting the source of the funds as required by university policy.

But Mr. Spence said that because Mr. Safran offered assurances that he was under no obligation to conceal the CIA's sponsorship of the conference and because papers delivered at the meeting would be published, "I have concluded that the conference should proceed." The two-day meeting, to which 100 scholars have been invited from the United States and the Middle East, is scheduled to take place this coming week.

Mr. Safran, a Jew who was born in Egypt, is considered one of the leading experts on the Middle East in the United States.